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## SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA



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### **THE HONORABLE LAWRENCE L. KOONTZ, JR. , A SENIOR JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA, IS RECIPIENT OF 2015 HARRY L. CARRICO OUTSTANDING CAREER SERVICE AWARD**

The Judicial Council of Virginia has named Senior Justice Lawrence L. Koontz, Jr., of the Supreme Court of Virginia, as the recipient of the 2015 Harry L. Carrico Outstanding Career Service Award. The award was presented to Senior Justice Koontz at the annual meeting of the Judicial Conference of Virginia on May 10, 2016.

Awarded in honor of the longest serving chief justice and the longest serving member in the history of the Supreme Court of Virginia, The Harry L. Carrico Outstanding Career Service Award is presented annually by the Judicial Council of Virginia to a Virginia judge who, over an extended career, has demonstrated exceptional leadership in the administration of the courts while exhibiting the traits of integrity, courtesy, impartiality, wisdom and humility. All appellate, circuit and district court judges are eligible for nomination.

A native of Roanoke, Virginia, Senior Justice Koontz received his undergraduate degree from Virginia Tech and his law degree from the T.C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond. Senior Justice Koontz was appointed to the Roanoke Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court in 1967, where he served until 1976, when he was elected a judge of the Twenty-third Judicial Circuit. In 1985, Senior Justice Koontz was elected a judge of the newly formed Court of Appeals of Virginia and served as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals for eight years from 1985 to 1993. First elected to a 12-year term on the Supreme Court of Virginia in 1995, Senior Justice Koontz retired from the Court and took Senior Justice status in 2011.

During his career, Senior Justice Koontz served as a president of the Virginia Juvenile Judges Association, the Roanoke Valley Mental Health Association, the first President of the Ted Dalton Inn of Court (Roanoke area), and as a member of the Judicial Council of Virginia. Senior Justice Koontz is a recipient of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Distinguished Service Award. Senior Justice Koontz has also served as a member of the Board of Governors, Family Law Section, Virginia State Bar, and as a faculty member of the Virginia State Bar's Professionalism Course.

**About the Judicial Council of Virginia:** The Judicial Council of Virginia is charged with the responsibility for making a continuous study of the organization, rules and methods of procedure and practice of the judicial system of the Commonwealth. It is also responsible for examining the work accomplished and results produced by the system and its individual offices and courts. A report of the proceedings and recommendations of the Council is made to the

General Assembly and to the Supreme Court on an annual basis. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is presiding officer for the Council whose membership includes one Court of Appeals judge, six circuit court judges, one general district court judge, one juvenile and domestic relations district court judge, two attorneys qualified to practice in the Supreme Court, and the Chairmen of the Committees for Courts of Justice in the Virginia Senate and House of Delegates. The Chief Justice and legislative members serve terms coincident with their terms of office, while other Council members are appointed by the Chief Justice and serve for four years or at the pleasure of the Chief Justice.

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